

July 7, 2011

To All VFC Providers,

Physicians and public health officials recommend pertussis (whooping cough) vaccination for all persons who have close contact with infants. Their recommendation comes from multiple studies demonstrating that infants are frequently infected by close contacts, particularly family members. The ACIP (Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices) recently published 2011 Immunization Recommendations that reiterate this strategy for pertussis prevention.

With this objective in mind, the Kansas Immunization Program will be offering Tdap vaccine to all interested VFC providers for the parent/caregiver of infant patients less than 12 months of age. Vaccine supplies for this project are limited and must be ordered prior to September 1, 2011.

Anyone who is a close contact/caregiver of an infant less than 12 months of age is eligible regardless of the insurance status of the adult seeking the Tdap vaccination. VFC eligibility of the infant patient is not a requirement for any component of this project.

The following guidelines for this limited time project are as follows:

1. Tdap will be the Sanofi Pasteur product (Adacel) and must be ordered by September 1, 2011.
2. The quantity of vaccine ordered should be the amount needed to vaccinate for a period of one year.
3. The Provider Profile (as completed on the 2011 VFC Provider Enrollment Form) and monthly immunization reports of vaccine usage will be reviewed to determine the quantity of the provider vaccine order that is submitted that will be processed.
4. Tdap vaccine orders must be submitted separately from provider childhood vaccine orders utilizing the program vaccine order form. Doses ordered must be specified as "Adult Tdap Project". Orders will not be processed without this information.
5. Vaccine orders from pediatric VFC providers will be filled on a first come, first serve basis until project vaccine supplies have been exhausted.
6. Vaccine accountability will be documented on the bottom of the MIR form by writing in "Adult Tdap Project" and the number of doses administered each month.
7. KSWebIZ direct entry users should document the funding source for Adult Tdap Project vaccine as "State" vaccine. Please call the KSWebIZ helpdesk if you need assistance with this action.
8. The number of Tdap vaccinations is limited to no more than two individuals representing as caregivers to a specific child.
9. The Adult Tdap Project is contingent upon available funding and vaccine prior to the September 1, 2011 date.

The purpose of this project is to utilize available vaccine supplies to increase the level of pertussis immunity among close contacts of infants, and reduce the incidence of pertussis in a susceptible population who is at high risk of complications from pertussis disease. Please contact Sheila Boos at 785-296-0869 or [sboos@kdheks.gov](mailto:sboos@kdheks.gov) with any questions. Thank you for helping accomplish this purpose.